

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**PATENT**

In re application of: Patrick et al.

Attorney Docket No.: Lam1P061

Application No.: 08/925,985

Examiner: Markoff, A.

Filed: September 9, 1997

Group: 1743

Title: Apparatus For Improving Etch Uniformity
And Methods Therefor

APR 11 2000

Official**FAX RECEIVED***Do not enter AM 3/13/00***PROPOSED AMENDMENT B****GROUP 1700**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231*6/3
JG
4-12-00
NE*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a proposed response to the Office Action dated May 1, 2000. I will call to see whether this proposed response is acceptable.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3 and the original claims 11-24. Please amend claims 1 and 25, as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) In a plasma processing chamber, a method for improving etch uniformity while etching a semiconductor substrate, comprising:

placing said semiconductor substrate into a sacrificial substrate holder, said sacrificial substrate holder being configured to present a sacrificial etch portion surrounding said semiconductor substrate to a plasma within said plasma processing chamber to permit said plasma to etch a first surface of said semiconductor substrate and a first surface of said sacrificial etch portion simultaneously, said first surface of said sacrificial etch portion being formed of [a material capable of being etched by said plasma] at least 99% pure aluminum and configured to be parallel with said first surface of said semiconductor substrate;

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**

380 Foam Street, Suite 210, Monterey, CA 93940
Telephone: (831) 655-2300 Facsimile: (831) 655-4288
www.beyerlaw.com

Official**FAX RECEIVED**

APR 11 2000

GROUP 1700**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

April 11, 2000

Receiver: Alexander Markoff
TEL #: 1 (703) 308-7545
FAX #: 1 (703) 305-7718

Sender: Michael Lee

Re: 08/925,985 Proposed amendment

Pages Including Cover Sheet(s): 4

MESSAGE:**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE**

The information contained in this facsimile (FAX) message is legally privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the receiver or firm named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended receiver, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copy of this FAX is strictly prohibited. If you have received this FAX in error, please immediately notify the sender at the telephone number provided above and return the original message to the sender at the address above via the United States Postal Service. Thank you.